NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

GOVERNOR BRIGGS AND THE ABOLITIONISTS.

During the recent session of the Anti-Slavery Convention at Boston, the proclamation of Governor Briggs, called out by the requisition of the War Department, was issued. This proclamation was received with wrath and indignation by the Convention, and, after a discussion, in which the Governor was denounced in the usual plain and passionate language of the abolition speakers, the ollowing resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That at the bar of liberty and humanity we impeach George N. Britons, the author of the pro-lamation dated yesterday, as perjured on his own principles, as a traitor by his own showing, and one before whose guilt that infamy of Arnold, and of the traitors in the Missouri compromise, becomes respectability and decency, since, under oath to support the Constitution of the United States, he calls on the Connonwealth to rally to a war which is waged to defend and protect an act (the annexation of Texas) which he has himse so often declared "a violation of the Constitution—equivaler so often deciared a violation to dissolution"—a triumph of slavery and despotism—one to which it would be the basest calumny to suppose that Massachusetts would ever submit; and that we call upon the people to forget them as emphatically as they did Mason, of Bo and Shaw, of Lanesborough, for their treason in 1820.

At the dinner of the Ancient and Honorable Ar tillery, on Monday, the above resolution was referred to as follows. The third regular toast was-

" The Governor of Massachusetts-Knowing the 'obliga tions of his office, and under the high incentive of the bright example of the great and good who have preceded him, he cannot be otherwise than fast and true to our beloved Commonwealth.'

In responding, Gov. BRIGGS, without naming the resolution, alluded to it by saying that he was thankful for the compliment conveyed in the toast and was gratified to find that he was regarded as an officer who was disposed to do his duty. Without undertaking to say how far he had succeeded in performing his duty, he would say that he felt bound to endeavor to deserve the compliment which had been paid to him. With regard to his public duty he had but one course to pursue. What that duty might be, and whenever he might be called upon to perform it, it should be done. That public officer, he said, who fails to do his duty is a "traitor." [Cheering.] A private individual might yield to his peculiar sentiments in his acts, without assuming any other responsibility than that of a simple citizen. But it was otherwise with a public officer, who had assumed responsibility as the servant of his fellow-citizens. Having undertaken to perform for them certain duties prescribed by the laws, he was bound to perform them. Having sworn, in the presence of the constituted public authorities, to support the Constitutions of the Commonwealth and the United States, and the laws passed under them, the public officer who should refuse to perform the duties made imperative by his oath was a "perjured" traitor. [Renewed cheers.]

FURTHER EXTRACTS OF THE FOREIGN NEWS RECEIVED BY THE GREAT WESTERN.

Foremost among the intelligence by this arrival stands th vote on the second reading of the Corn Bill in the House of Lords. This was on the morning of May 29, at a quarter before five o'clock. The bill was opposed by Earl Grey, Lord Ashburton, the Earl of Eglintoun, Lord Beaumont, and the Duke of Beaufort; and sustained by the Earl of Essex, Earl Dalhousie, and the Duke of Wellington. The latter, in substance, said :

"It was painful to him to have to force this measure upon the consideration of the House in opposition to the feelings of those with whom he had been so long, and, with such satisfaction to himself, united in ties of friendship. The cours he had taken, however, he would be ready to take again tomorrow, if called upon by what he conceived to be his duty to the Crown. His own conscience was satisfied, and he could only regret it if others did not take the same view he did of his duty to his most gracious sovereign The House then divided, and the numbers were-

Proxies...... 73 For the amendment-

For the second reading-

The vote is received with despairing bitterness by the pro-

tectionist journals. On the 24th Lord John Russell gave notice, in the House of Commons, that, in the Committee on the Sugar Duties, h should move the reduction of the duty on all foreign sugar to the rate proposed for sugar the produce of free labor, and, it that should be agreed to, for the abolition of all differential duties on foreign and colonial sugars.

This sugar question is the one on which it is supposed (by some) that Sir Robert Peel will retire from the Ministry.

Mr. O'Brien has emerged from "the cellar" of the Hou of Commons. The committee on which he refused to serve having finished its business he was ordered to be set at liberty, but his friends of the press complain bitterly that he has been required to pay a bill of forty-one pounds and some odd shillings, under the name of fees.

The Cambria arrived at Liverpool on the evening of May 28, bringing information of the war with Mexico. The London papers copy the President's message and proclamation, the account of Capt. Thornton's affair, &c. So far as we have yet seen they make no extended comments, for which indeed, there was not time.

Commodore Jones, late commander of the British squadro on the west coast of Africa, died soon after his arrival in Eng land, whither he had returned in consequence of his failing

A Liverpool paper of the 30th ultimo records a melancholy loss of human life, by a collision on the river Mersey, between two large iron steamers, the Sea Nympth and the Rambler— the former plying between Liverpool and Newry, the latter between Liverpool and Sligo. The Sea Nympth was outward bound, with a few cabin and fifty deck passengers: the Ram-bler was bound for Liverpool, and had about two hundred and bler was bound for Liverpool, and had about two numbers and fifty passengers, on their way for embarcation to America.

The collision took place a short distance from the Cheshire is true of the destruction of the Caroline on the Canadian frontier.

The capture of Monterey, a Mexican town upon the frontier. shore, inside the Rock lightnouse, at about hall past 10 clock.

P. M. The force of the collision was so great that the report was heard on shore, and was likened to two sudden claps of thunder. On board the Rambler the bulwarks were broken thunder. On board the Rambler the bulwarks were broken thunder. in and the heavy windlass forced from its position. One end of it fell on deck, crushing five passengers to death, and others fore, that war existed, is not sustained by facts. We had no boats, launched it, and twelve jumped in. Others were following, but the boat capsized, and ten of the twelve were drowned. The life-boat, and subsequently a small steamer,

their permanent stations until the season for campaigning opens again in October. The affairs of the Punjaub remain in the same unsettled state. The city of Lahore was in possession of the division commanded by the British general, and the Sikh soldiers who were found within the walls were ordered to quit instantly. An idea existed of the disbanded Sikhs that our conduct towards Mexico is entirely independent to quit instantly. An idea existed of the disbanded Sikhs Texas was annexed to the United States, and, on the supposition that that act was valid, what did it include? What did ed in a well-guarded place within fifty miles of the British territory. The newly-acquired district, which is called the Doah, that is, "situated between the two rivers"—viz. the Beas and the Sutlej-was undergoing a strict examination, and different places were selected for cantonments for the British troops.
Juliander is the chief town, and there the principal part of the
troops are to be stationed. Scinde is profoundly quiet, and it is also healthy. Sir Charles Napier was coming down the Sutlej and Indus to Kurrachee, where he expected to spend the mensoon. His health was impaired.

Two Max Snor .- There were two men shot dead in one

SPEECH OF MR. HUDSON. OF MASSACHUSETTS.

On the Subject of the War with Mexico.

House of Representatives, May 14, 1846. The House being in Committee of the Whole on the Army

Mr. HUDSON, having obtained the floor, said : Mr. Chairman, under ordinary circumstances I should not have intruded myself upon the attention of the committee. But we are now at war with a sister Republic; we are engaged in a contest embarrassing form, and gentlemen of honesty of purpose might differ upon the final vote. As I claim sincerity for myself, I do not question the sincerity of my friends whose minds

nember from Ohio would have been unobjectionable if they passed, the hot haste with which it was pressed through this House, and I intend that it shall be known elsewhere. So far as my feeble powers extend, I intend the country shall know with what rashness and indecent haste all the evils of war have been brought upon the country. A message was received from the President of the United States with reference to our relations with Mexico. This message was accompanied with voluminous correspondence, which passed between Mexican Republic.

Though our Government had by public acts acknowledged. ur Government and Mexico, and also between the Executive and Gen. Taylor. The House resolved itself into a bate, by a vote of the dominant party, was limited to the dent Tyler and his Secretary of State attems short space of two hours. One hour and a balf of that time to obtain all the territory east of that river. our territory. This bill was under debate for some thirty minutes, but no Whig was able to obtain the floor. Then, amendments, and the bill was immediately reported to the House, and passed under the previous question. Thus, sir, was war declared after a debate of some thirty minutes only, and that confined entirely to a few brief remarks by four mempers of the Democratic party. Not an individual of the minority was permitted to say a word upon the great and absorbing question of peace and war. The House knows, and the

Thus, sir, were the Whig party in the House compelled by a tyrannic majority to pass upon this great question without a single word of debate on their part, and without having one-half of the documents which were submitted by the President read! And now we are told, by the members of the same dominant party, that it is treasonable to speak against a mea-sure thus hastily and tyrannically forced through the House, vithout debate, amid scenes of excitement and confusion. Opposition to this measure, we are told, would have been pro-per before it had passed, but now, being at war, all opposition to the measure shows a want of patriotism, and a disposition to take sides with the enemy. Sir, I admit no such principle; I will submit to no such iron rule. And has it come to this, that all debate is to be suppressed in this Hall—that freedom of speech is to to be denied to the representatives of a free people? A doctrine more despotic was never advanced. Ac ple? A doctrine more despotic was never advanced. According to this doctrine, if the President, led on by vain ambition, or by a treasonable desire to raise himself to a throne on he ruins of our free Government, has the wickedness totramole upon the prerogatives of Congress, and commence an unjust war with a foreign Power, we are to submit in silence, because hostilities have already commenced. We are to the property and lives of our citizens wantonly sacrificed, be-cause a drilled majority of political partisans may have succeeded in pressing through Congress, without debate, an en-dorsement of Executive usurpation. I say, sir, I will counte-nance no such doctrine; I will submit to no such dogma. Under the peculiar circumstances of the case, I will speak, and speak as freely this day as I would have spoken on Monday last. And, though the gentleman from Illinois very medestly brands those as cowards who voted against the declaration of war, I will assure him that I have the moral courag

sons, and, among others, for this: I believe the preamble, and its repetition in the first section of the bill, to be untrue. The preamble is as follows: "Whereas, by the act of the Repub-lic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government

Now, sir, I regard this preamble as utterly false-false as a whole, and false in each of its recitals. It is not true that war existed before the passage of that act. There had been a collision between our troops and those of Mexico; but a collision of forces in a single instance, and at a particular point, does not amount to war, in the legal and constitutional sense of that term. By the constitution of this country and of Mexico the power to declare war is vested in Congress, and not in the President or the commanding general. We have no authori-ty for saying that the Mexican Government had declared war, and we know that our Congress had given no authority to the President to march his troops upon a disputed territory in pos-session of the Mexicans. There is also a manifest distinction between hostilities and war. When war is proclaimed by the nstituted authority, the whole nation and the world are bound to take cognizance of it, and to govern themselves ac-cording to the rules of constitutional and international law. But there may be outbreaks or collisions at a particular point, hostilities within a limited sphere, and even letters of marque and reprisal may be granted to one or more injured subjects, under certain circumstances, and with suitable limitations, without being in a state of war, in the legal sense of that term. When war exists neutral nations are bound to take notice of it : but the same is not true in every case of hostility. hostility, but neither nation regarded it as a war. The same the Texan Congress is valid. Not only the resolutions of anrelations of peace may be preserved. The declaration, there-fore, that war existed, is not sustained by facts. We had no were severely wounded. The passengers secured one of the evidence of its existence at that time; on the contrary, all the

drowned. The life-boat, and subsequently a smell steamer, went to the assistance of the Rambler, which was completely disabled. These took off the passengers. Thirteen dead bodies were found under the windlass and bulwarks in the forecastle. The Sea Nympth was but slightly injured, and not a single individual on board was hurt.

The preamble states not only that war exists, but that it while peace is cherished that boundary will be sacred. Not till the spirit of conquest rages will the people on either side molest or mix with each other." He virtually admits that we shall have no right, even up to the desert, by virtue of annexing Texas, for he speaks of buying our peace with Mexico, and obtaining the country up to the great desert by the offer of The overland mail reached London on the 21st of May, the advices being from Calcutta to the 7th of April and from Bombay to the 15th.

Tranquillity prevailed throughout India.

Tranquillity prevailed throughout India. do. But, in the act of annexation, we not only violathe decrease of annexation, we not only violated our own organic law, but violated our faith pledged to Mexico by solemn treaty. But, sir, I will not rely upon that act, unjust as I believe that to have been. I will take the cases act, unjust as I believe that to have been. I will take the cases are those best acquainted with the true state of things apprehend tittle or no danger of war—the main sinew of war, money, will heal the breach and the controversy amicably." Here is act, unjust as I believe that to have been. I will take the case as it stood after the joint resolution was passed; and I believe we annex? The old province of Texas was bounded on the southwest by the Nueccs, which does not approach within one hundred and fifty miles of the position occupied by General Taylor. The Texas which has been annexed to the United States was the old province of Texas ; the Texas which formed one of the States or departments of Mexico ; the Texas powers to adjust both the questions of the Texas boundary and which rebelled against the parent Government, and set up a of indemnification of our citizens."

Government for herself; in a word, the Texas which was bounded by the river Nucces. It is true that the Texan Con-

Two Mas Snor.—There were two men shot dead in one of the southern counties of Kentucky on the 1st instant.

Since the delivery of this speech we have received the Manifesto of Paredea, dated "Astional Palace of Mexico, April 23, 1846," only one day before the collision on the Rio Grande, the purpose of arresting B. H. O'Neil for an assault with intent kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse comminute to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse control to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse control to kill. Apprehending resistance, he summoned a posse control to kill to key can be a control summoned a posse control to kill to key can be a control summoned a posse control to key can be a control summoned a posse control to key can be a control summoned a posse control to key can be a control summoned a posse control to key control summoned a posse control to key can be a control summoned to the country of this speech we have received the Mexican posses of the law had, in vi

war with a sister Republic; we are engaged in a contest strip of country on the left or eastern bank of the Rio Grande that he had no settled principle upon the subject, he returned to the question of the fundamental principles of our constitution.

Nueces and Rio Grande ever belonged to Texas? A large that he had no settled principle upon the subject, he returned to the question of the early boundary, and referred to the argument of my venerable colleague. (Mr. Angue) where the principles of our constitution. maintain that the wilderness or desert country between commenced by the Executive without just cause, and in direct violation of the fundamental principles of our constitution. Believing this to be the case, I feel it my duty to bear testimony against this procedure; and I am the more inclined to do this, because I was one of the few, or, as gentlemen on the other side of the House have sneeringly said, one of the ignostic fourteen, who had the independence to follow their own sense of duty, and to vote according to the dictates of their own consciences. I bring no accusation against others. own consciences. I bring no accusation against others. The foreign imports, exported from certain of our ports to Canada, subject was presented by the majority of the House in the most

happy results."

Here, sir, we have the most positive recognition on the part of our Government that Santa Fe belongs to Mexico, and is But the gentleman from Illinois, (Mr. Douglass,) in reply included within her lawful territory. But every one knows to my friend from Ohio, (Mr. Delano,) has told the committee that it is treason to the country to denounce the war, now it is declared. He seems to admit that the remarks of the country, or that any part of the country bordering upon that belongs to Texas, and hence is a part of the United river, member from Ohio would have been unobjectionable if they had been made before the war bill had become a law. But, States? There is no authority at all for that plea; not sir, I recognise no such distinction under the circumstances of one particle of proof that the Rio Grande is our true boundary, the case. We know the manner in which that bill was passed, the hot haste with which it was pressed through this House, and I intend that it shall be known elsewhere. So

Though our Government had by public acts acknowledges ve and Gen. Taylor. The House resolved itself into a committee of the Whole to consider the subject. The dedent Tyler and his Secretary of State attempted clandestinely to obtain all the territory east of that river. The language of umed in reading the correspondence, and even then the treaty was general. It provided that the Republic of Texone half of the papers were not read. The chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs called up a bill, which had been for some time upon our tables, which simply authorized imply that the country ceded was nothing more than Texas the President to accept the services of volunteers, should they be necessary to defend our own soil, or repel invasion from when the President was pressed by the Senate to furnish our territory. This bill was under debate for some thirty map and description of the country to be annexed, he laid befor the first time, a declaration of war was mentioned, and sundry amendments to that effect were offered. When the try east of that river. But Mr. Calhoun, the Secretary of State, time for discussion expired the committee passed upon the was the master-spirit in the whole transaction, feeling con-scious, as it would seem, that the act of the Texan Congress had no validity, in his note to Mr. Green, our Charge at Mexico, enjoined it upon him to assure the Mexican Govern-ment that the boundaries were not fixed, and that this Government would exercise a liberal policy in relation to that subject country shall know, the hasty and inconsiderate manner in which they have been involved in all the horrors of war. A which they have been involved in all the horrors of war. A to settle all questions between the two countries which may grosser instance of precipitancy and rashness cannot be found in the history of any assembly calling itself a delibera- and satisfactory terms, including that of boundary; and, with that view, the Minister who has been recently appointed will be shortly sent with adequate powers." In the same note he directs Mr. Green to assure the Mexican Government "that the Government of the United States has taken every precaution to make the terms of the treaty as little objectionable to Mexico as possible; and, among others, has left the boundary of Texas without specification, so that the boundary might be ry might be an open question, to be fairly and fully discussed, and settled according to the rights of each, and the mutual in-

terest and security of the two countries.' Now, sir, does not this amount to a full confession on the part of Mr. Calhoun that the Rio Grande was not the boundary of Texas? If he relied upon the act of the Texan Con gress, why permit the line to be drawn in question, and protled by two nations, and any declaration by one is entirely void. Settling territorial limits is to be regarded in the light of a contract, and as necessarily implies two parties as any other contract whatever. Hence it is the very perfection of sume upon the ignorance of Congress as to present that exparte act of Texas as having any bearing upon this question.

But the treaty was rejected by the Senate; and no objection was urged with more force than the one we are considering, that it attempted to carry the western boundary of Texas to the Rio Grande, far beyond the true limits of Texas. The distinguished Senator from Missouri, (Mr. Benton,

when speaking against the treaty, said : "The one half of the department of New Mexico, with its of Chihushua also becomes ours; a part of the department of Coahuila, not populated on the left bank, which we take, but commanded from the right by Mexican authorities; the same gentleman or his friends. I make no pretensions to bravery, but it frequently requires more moral courage to stand alone, or with a small minority, than it does to follow the multitude in the moment of popular excitement.

M. Chairman also becomes ours; a part of the department of Coahuila, not populated on the left bank, which we take, but commanded from the right by Mexican authorities; the same of Tamaulipas, which covers both sides of the river from its mouth for some hundred miles up, and all the left bank of which is in the power and possession of Mexico. These, in addition to old Texas—these parts of four States—these towns and villages—these parts of four States—these towns with a small minority, than it does to follow the multitude in the moment of popular excitement.

Mr. Chairman, I was one of the fourteen who voted against the moment of the fourteen who voted against the following the following

eut off from its mother empire, and presents to us, and declares it ours till the Senate rejects it ***
"The treaty, in all that relates to the boundary of the Rio Grande, is an act of unparalleled outrage on Mexico. It is the seizure of two thousand miles of her territory without a word of explanation with her, and by virtue of a treaty with Texas

of explanation with her, and by the treaty on the Rio Grande frontier, I take up the treaty itself, and under all its aspects, and in its whole extent, and assume four positions in relation

to it, viz:
"1. That the ratification of the treaty would be, of itself,

var between the United States and Mexico

"2. That it would be an unjust war.
"3. That it would be a war unconstitutionally made.

"4. That it would be a war upon a weak and grou

bretext. The treaty failing, the subject at the next session was brough forward in a form to obviate in some degree this objection the Senator of Missouri. The joint resolution of annexation provides that the "territory properly included within, and rightfully belonging to the Republic of Texas may be erected into a State," &c. But the first condition imposed upon Texas in the resolution was this: "Said State to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this Government of all question of boundary that may arise with other Governments." Here, sir, we have a full recognition of the unsettled state of the western boundary of Texas. The language is selected

with caution—"the territory properly included within, and rightfully belonging to Texas," and this is followed with a We provision that all questions of boundary which may arise with other Governments shall be settled by the United States and that other Government. These provisions can have no significancy on the supposition that the boundary mentioned by nexation implied that the boundary of Texas did not extend to the Rio Grande, but Mr. C. J. Ingersoll, the chairman of by an Almighty hand. The stupendous deserts between the rivers Nueces and Bravo (Rio Grande) are the natural bounfrank confession that the contemplated boundary was the great desert, and even that could be obtained only by the payment of money. And what has been the policy of our Government since the adoption of that joint resolution? Why vernment since the adoption of that joint resolution? Why, the President informed us in his annual message that he had appointed a distinguished citizen of Louisians, and sent him the neighborhood." to Mexico "to adjust and definitively settle all pending differences between the two countries, including those of boundary between Mexico and the State of Texas." And, in his recent message, he says that Mr. Slidell "was entrusted with full

east of that river, is included in the Republic of Mexico.

But, sir, while I am upon this subject, I wish to pay my respects to the gentleman from Illinois, (Mr. Douglass,) who favored us with his views upon this subject yesterday.

The gentleman gave us as rare a specimen of advancing and

to the territory lying west of her original limits? She could retreating, of playing off and on, as we often witness. In from Massachusetts whether he has any authority for saying ference, not to the immediate fate of the army, but to the futo the territory lying west of her original limits. She could retreating, or playing the conduction of the first place, he attempted to substantiate our title to the have none but that of conquest. And did she ever carry her the first place, he attempted to substantiate our title to the conquest up to the Rio Grande? Nothing like it; every attempted to substantiate our title to the that the Mexicans crossed the river simply to cut on General Acids succor to our own troops, but of the conquest of Mexico. Taylor's supplies I will not higgle with the gentleman from Georgia about This was in fact the question which the majority pressed upon the House; and if our army should have suffered by the defeat tempt she made proved a signal failure. The population upon boundaries of Texas. But, after he had demonstrated that the Rio Grande never rebelled against Mexico, were never to his own satisfaction, he confessed that these old boundaronquered by Texas, or submitted to Texan law or authority. Texas made several attempts to plant her standard upon the banks of that river, but in every attempt her forces were either captured or driven back? With what propriety, then, can we of Texas was bounded. In this way he yielded all arguments Nucces, and from this he argued that all that country fell within the Republic of Texas. But does not every one see the utter fallacy of this reasoning? I presume there might have been some soldiers in the Texan army from the country west of the Nueces, but to every one west of that river there were, I presume, ten from the country east of the Sabine. And if this fact proves that the country between the Nucces and the Rio Grande is included in Texas, the same argument would prove that a large section of the United States was rightfully included in that Republic. But, sir, the question is not from what country or section of country the soldiers came, but over what country did they extend their arms And I say, without fear of contradiction, that they never were able to extend their conquests to the Rio Grande at different periods made attempts at conquering the country but have always been repulsed or captured.

The gentleman has said that one member of the Texas Congress had resided west of the Nueces, and hence he inferred that all that country to the Rio Grande belonged Texas. But, admitting the fact to be as he has stated, the conclusion does not follow. The distance from the Nueces to the Rio Grande is some hundred and sixty miles, and ever if it should be admitted that a few men residing in the imme diate valley of the Nucces should call themselves Texans, and consent to be governed by Texan laws, this does not justify the inference that the Texans possess the whole country up le the Rio Grande. It is also true that men residing east of the Rio Grande are represented in the Mexican Congress, and that fact is as good for them as the other is for us.

Again, the gentleman has told us that this whole country

is included in one of the Congressional districts in Texas. The State is, I believe, divided into two districts; but it is manifest that whatever may be the language of their law, it can include no territory but what is rightfully theirs. Again, the gentleman says that this country is included within one of our collection districts, and is subject to our revenue laws This statement, borrowed from the message of the President, requires great qualification. It is true that a collection district has been established at Corpus Christi, which happens to be on the west side of the Nueces, at its mouth. But that our revenue system is extended west to the Rie Grande, is not true. And though the message seems designed to give that impression, the documents submitted with the message expressly con'radict it. General Taylor, in his despatch dated Corpus Christi, February 26, 1846, informs the President that he had taken every opportunity of giving the impression to the Mexicans "that the Mexicans living on this side (of the Rio Grande) will not be disturbed in any way by our troops; that they will be protected in all their rights and usages; and that every thing which the army may need will be purchased from them at fair prices. I also stated that, until the matter should be finally adjusted between the two Govern-ments, the harbor of Brasos Santiago would be open to the free use of the Mexicans as heretofore. The same views were impressed upon the Mexican custom-house officer at Brasos Santiago by Captain Hardee, who commanded the escort which covered the reconnoissance of Padre island."

Here, Mr. Chairman, we have the authority of Gen. Taylor

for the fact that Mexicans were in possession on the east bank of the Rio Grande, that Mexicans were living there, that they had the navigation of the harbor of Brasos Santiago, and had a custom house and custom-house officer there. then, could the message declare with propriety, or even truth, that our revenue laws were extended over the whole country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande ' Gen. Taylor further informs us that in approaching Point Isabel he found it in flames, and that on arriving there he learned that the "port captain, who committed the act," had made his escape, and that with the exception of two or three inoffensive Mexicans the rest had left the place for Matamores. This evidence is clear and conclusive that the Mexicans were in possession of absurdity to rely upon the declaration of Texas as deciding the country on the east bank of the Rio Grande. In fine, the this question. It is, therefore, a matter of profound astonishment that the President, in his late message, should so precentage of War, Mr. Marcy, in his order to General Taylor, cretary of War, Mr. Marcy, in his order to General Taylor, dated July 8, 1845, says: "This Department is informed that Mexico has some military establishments on the east side of the Rio Grande, which are, and for some time have been,

in the actual occupancy of her troops." We have then the most conclusive evidence that Mexico was in possession on the left bank of the Rio Grande, having living there, custom-houses and military posts there. What, then, becomes of the declaration of the gentleman from Illinois, or the declaration in the message from which he borextended over the whole country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande? But the gentleman from Illinois has another argument on which he places great reliance : that at a certain time an armistice was concluded between the Mexicans and Texans, and one provision was that the Mexican forces should be withdrawn to the right bank of the Rio Grande. Now, I would gladly ask that gentleman, whether he has any confidence in an argument of this sort? Does not every one ne passage of the war bill. I voted against it for various rea- miles long and some hundred broad-all this our President has know that nothing is more common in such cases than to agree that the armies on both sides shall be withdrawn from the scene of action? But who ever thought before that such an agreement for the time being would settle the future boundary of the two countries? The Mexican might with more nation to obey them.

The gentleman from Ohio, (Mr. Thurnan,) who addresspropriety rely upon the fact that General Taylor took his first he Rio Grande, was the true boundary.

carry her arms west to the Rio Grande? She has made it is suggested by gentlemen around me that he might have several attempts, and has always been defeated—in each case been driven back or captured. Does she hold the country west of the Nueces, except perhaps a very small decalist that he is said to have remarked that if he thought he purposes will cry from the ground to Him "who bringeth the purposes will cry from the ground to Him "who bringeth the princes to nothing, and who taketh up the isles as a very little portion in the immediate vicinity of the river? There is not had one drop of democratical particle of evidence that she does. Mexico being the originate the lancet and let it out. al owner, on every principle of law, would still continue to own all except what actually revolted or was conquered by teen," and representing them as enemies of their country, he Texas. And as Texas never conquered the country up to the Rio Grande, and as it is now, or was on the approach of General Taylor's army, inhabited by the subjects of Mexico who owed allegiance to that Government, and who were so have seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field, I presume, than that genhave seen more of the tented-field seen more faithful to their own country as to burn their dwellings on the approach of the American army, and cross the river to their As to his attack upon the Federal party, in 1812, I have

and the most that can possibly be said is, that the territory is in dispute. In all such cases, possession is a good title as against an imperfect one. We had, therefore, by no principle of law, a right to dispossess her by arms, pending the controversy, and especially as she was willing to receive a special not permit. It is rare that we upon this side of the House are not informed, when Glover drew his pistol and which we are not informed, when Glover drew his pistol and troversy, and especially as she was willing to receive a special in dispute. In all such cases, possession is a good title as against an imperfect one. We had, therefore, by no princiminister to treat expressly upon this subject of boundary. The advance of our army, therefore, was an act of aggression. submitted to any court of justice, and the verdict would be of more modern threats of nullification and disunion in another

from General Ampudia, summoning him to withdraw his force within twenty four hours, and to fall back beyond the Nueces. Was this summons an act of hostility not so regarded by General Taylor, for in his note in reply how, in view of all these numerous confessions on the says the responsibility will, rest upon those "who rashly commence hostilities." So, according to his own confession,

across the river to oppose General Taylor, I regard Arista's selves between him and his supplies. I regard Arista's movement as a hostile one, brought on by the hostile movements of our own troops. Our forces had blockaded Mataments of our own troops. Our forces had blockaded Mataments of the supplies from the Mexican army; and no evidence that the Mexicans made the first attack.

to this Union; but the Texas we annexed was limited in her territory to the Nucces or that immediate vicinity. Though she had made several attempts to extend her territory by sycophants who bow to the Executive for place, but they are unworthy of freemen. I protest against all such corrupt and ful. The whole country east of the Rio Grande to the Nucces, or certainly to the desert, remained in the hands of the Mexicans. They had settlements in the territory, they had military posts there, and custom-houses, which we have always acknowledged as belonging to Mexico by paying duties in the English Parliament in pleading the cause of America. They are to the Mexican Government. Though Texas had laid. He stake freely of the impolicy and the injustice of the mother This can be regarded in no other light than an act of aggression. So impatient was the Executive to dispossess the Mexicans and take possession of the whole country between the Nucces and the Rio Grande, that, as early as June, 1845, I never would lay down my arms—NEVER, NEVER, before annexation had been consummated, Mr. Bancroft, the acting Secretary of War, in his instructions to Gen. Taylor,

ties. There may be other acts, on the part of Mexico, which would put an end to the relations of peace between that Republic and the United States. In case of war, either declared or made manifest by hostile acts, your main object will be the protection of Texas; but the pursuit of this object will not necessarily confine your action within the territory of Texas. Mexico having thus commenced hostilities, you may, in your discretion, should you have sufficient force, and be in a condition to do so, cross the Rio Grande, disperse or capture the forces assembling to invade Texas, defeat the junction of troops uniting for that purpose, drive them from their positions on either side of that river, and, if deemed practicable and expedient, take and hold possession of Matamaros and other places in the country. I scarcely need say that enterprises of this country.

Claimed upon this floor in the hall of an American Congress.

I have no boasts to make of my devotion to my country. I am a citizen of this country. This is the land of my birth. My let is east in the United States, and my fortune is connected with hers. When she is right, I will sustain her; and if I believe her to be in the wrong, I will not give her up, but will point out her errors, and do all in my power to bring her into the right; so that, if war must come, and our young men must be offered on the altar of our country, we may safely commend them to the God of battles—to that Being who rules in the country. I scarcely need to the right is continued with hers.

I desire the prosperity of my country, and nothing but my devotion to her interest, and to the higher principles of moral rectified upon this floor in the hall of an American Congress.

I have no boasts to make of my devotion to the right; so that, if war must come, and our young men must be offered on the altar of our country, we may safely commend them to the God of battles—to that Being who rules in the

ment of hostilies." In an order of August 30, 1845, the Se-

ing a fair prospect of success.' Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that no man can read these orders and review the whole course of the President without perceiving that the Executive was seeking an occasion against Mexico-using every means in his power, and means which by the constitution, he did not possess, to bring on a war with that Republic. And, after these numerous acts of aggression, the President has the effrontery to tell us, in his late nessage, that "war exists, notwithstanding all our efforts o avoid it, and exists by the acts of Mexico herself."

Sir, I regard this declaration as utterly untrue; and, as it was incorporated into the bill and preamble, I could not vote for it. I believe the preamble to be false, and was satisfied that it was connected with the bill for the purpose of shielding the President. I believe that this recognition of existing war was connected with the supplies for the army for the purpose of committing as many as possible to this base war of con-quest, and to this gross encreachment upon the constitution. Regarding the preamble as false, and the war inexpedient, and one got up for the purpose of conquest, I could not, as a faithful representative of the people, give it my support. I believe I should have been false to truth, to justice, and to the best interests of my country, if I had given my sanction to such a measure.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Douglass) has nounced every one a hypocrite, a traitor, and a coward, who voted against the bill, and who charged the Executive as the aggressor in this case. But, sir, I shall not be deterred from what I consider to be my duty by any such intimidation. I the edict of James K. Polk, or any other President. I have no ambitious ends to answer, no patronage to seek, no high that gentleman may brand us as cowards, I will assure him that neither the strength of his voice, nor the violence of his gesticulations, nor the spasmodic emotions of his patriotism will in the slightest degree alarm me. The gentleman may

"Shake his ambrosial locks and give the nod," and some gentlemen may, perhaps, tremble in his presence,

" Assume the god, Affect to nod, And seem to shake the spheres," but he will not shake my convictions of duty, or my determi

ition upon the Nueces, to prove that that river, and not ed the committee yesterday, read numerous extracts from the Federal papers published during the late war with England. There is, in my apprehension, one capital defect in all the argument adduced to carry the Texan boundary west to the Rio Grande. There may be, and probably are, a few persons them a demolished his colleague at a blow, because that gen him, also, that in a war for conquest, and especially in a war them. There may be, and probably are, a few persons them had applied to the present war some of the epithets to extend and perpetuate slavery, we should stand disgraced in living immediately upon the west bank of the Nucces who have acted with the Texans. They have been cut off from all that the gentleman has said, what does it prove. His the eyes of the Rio Grande by the wilderness and deserts colleague had denounced the present war and its authors; and which lie between those two rivers, and may have regarded themselves as belonging to Texas. But this, if it be admitted to the fullest extent, does not prove that Texas has ever extended her laws one bundred and fifty miles further to the tents himself with a low attempt to create a popular prejudice Rio Grande, and over people of another race, speaking another against his colleague. If he felt competent to meet the argulanguage, and owing allegiance to another Government. ments of his colleague why did he not do it? Why depend upon the old cry of Federalism? I do not know the source revolution—that is, by conquest and possession. Did she whence the gentleman obtained his "elegant extracts," but carry her arms west to the Rio Grande? She has made it is suggested by gentlemen around me that he might have

While the gentleman was denouncing the "immortal four-

over countrymen, I contend that there is not a particle of nothing to say. They need no defence from me. They proof that the whole country east of the Rio Grande belonged numbered in their ranks some of the wisest statesmen and to Texas, or belongs to the United States.

The President himself has furnished evidence that the Mexicans were in possession in the valley of the Rio Grande: Though young at that period my feelings were enlisted on the

not permit. It is rare that we upon this side of the House can obtain the floor; and I have no time to be catechised by the gentlemen on the other side; they will have their turn seized the pistol from Glover's hands, and fired it—the ball the gentlemen on the other side; they will have their turn We have encroached upon territory where she had the posses- hereafter. But if the gentleman from South Carolina is troubsion, and claimed to have a perfect title. Let a case like this led about threats of disunion, I will ask him what he thinks mediately. Buckner died yesterday morning.

be submitted to any court of justice, and the verdict would be rendered against us.

I will even go further. If our title were the best, or we were in possession up to the banks of the Rio Grande, even then we should be the aggressors, according to General Taylor's own account. In his despatch of the 15th of April, he says that he blocked up the Rio Grande and stopped all supplies for Matamoros. This was the first act of aggression. For at that time it is not pretended that the Mexicans had made any attack upon our troops. Col. Cross had been our forces and those of Mayico took place on the 24th of April had made any attack upon our troops. Col. Cross had been our forces and those of Mexico took place on the 24th of April, missing for a few days, but the worst apprehension was that he might have been murdered by some "banditti known to be in the neighborhood." And what provocation had General Taylor the Mexican army 'He tells us that he had received a despatch from General Ampudia, summoning him to withdraw his organized, and sent to the scene of action before the middle June. Some six or eight weeks must elapse before the troops raised by our act could reach General Taylor's camp. How, then, can it be pretended that our action could have any reference to the immediate condition of our army? From the part of our own Government, is it not perfectly preposterous in 1836 passed an act declaring that their Republic was bounded westerly by the Rio Grande. But what title had she "Since the delivery of this speech we have received the Maniesto of Paredes, dated "National Palace of Mexico, April 23, 1846," only one day before the collision on the Rio Grande, which he save not complete the street of the immediate condition of our army? From the interest of purpose, in bold and glowing fluency of the submitted by General Taylor it appears to be certain that their Republic was before the Mexicans had commenced hostilities." So, according to his own confession, ference to the immediate condition of our army? From the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Rio Grande? Have we any better the facts submitted by General Taylor it appears to be certain that their Republic was before the Mexicans had commenced hostilities." So, according to his own confession, ference to the immediate condition of our army? From the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that our title is "clear and undertoom the Executive to maintain that

terms. I suppose that General Arista had sent his troops the House; and if our army should have suffered by the defeat across the river to oppose General Taylor, by throwing themselves between him and his supplies. I regard Arista's who, to gain party ends, were pleased to connect the question

the Mexicans, in return, attempted to intercept our supplies. to oppose the Government in time of war. Sir, I have no sympathy with that dastardly sentiment. What! has it come attacking the army itself, and cutting off their provisions and to this, that a weak or wicked Executive may usurp power and attacking the army itself, and cutting off their provisions and munitions of war. It is as much an act of hostility to cut off involve the nation in an unjust war, and an unscrupulous man army by famine as by the sword. Or, if gentlemen regard nothing as war but an actual collision of forces, we have no evidence that the Mexicans made the first attack. General Taylor in his despatch does not pretend it.

From the view I have taken of this whole subject it appears to me that we have been the aggressors. We annexed Texas to this Union; but the Texas we annexed was limited in her there to the Mexican Government. Though Texas had laid He spake freely of the impolicy and the injustice of the mother there to the Mexican Government. Though Texas had laid some claim to the territory, Mexico was in possession, and we had always acknowledged it. And yet the President of the United States, without authority of law, sends our army to dispossess the Mexicans by taking possession of the territory, and planting our standard on the banks of the Rio Grande—the very extreme point to which the most sanguine ever laid claim. Gen. Taylor had, also, by the direction of the Executive, erected a battery opposite Matamoros, with his guns pointing into the town, as if to awe them into subm ssion.

This can be regarded in no either light than an act of sagres. Americans have been wronged, they have been driven to mad-ness by injustice." "If I were an American, as I am an I solemnly call upon your lordships, and upon every order of acting Secretary of War, in his instructions to Gen. Taylor, informed him that his "ultimate destination" was the Rio Grande. This is followed up by an order of August 23, 1845, in which was find the following. "Should Market 1990, and the following the following the following. "Should Market 1990, and the following the followin 1845, in which we find the following: "Should Mexico assemble a large body of troops on the Rio Grande, and cross it with a considerable force, such a movement must be regarded as an invasion of the United States, and the commencein war. This is English liberty. Pitt, and Barre, and Burke, cretary of War goes further, and says:

"An attempt to cross the river with a large force will be considered by the President as the commencement of hostilities. There may be other acts, on the part of Mexico, which

moral rectitude, induced me to separate from those with whom I have generally acted. I could not consent to involve my country in a war which I believe to be unnecessary and unjust—a war of conquest—brought about by ambitious men to answer personal and party purposes.

Before I conclude my remarks, I must notice another sub-ject closely connected with this, and one out of which our pre-sent difficulties have grown. Gentlemen with whom I have cted on this floor will bear me witness that I have not been in the habit of going out of my way to attack the institutions of the South. Though I have always regarded slavery as an evil—a political and moral wrong—having no power over it in the States, I have been disposed to leave it with those who have it it in their keeping to manage, according to their own sense of propriety. But, when gentlemen throw this subject in my path—when they bring it up here for action and ask of annexation. I opposed it then, and I voted again

me to give a vote upon it, I will speak and act freely—I will not give it my countenance—it shall not be extended by me. This war is one of the first fruits of the annexation of Texas. And that measure was got up and consummated to extend and perpetuate slavery. Mr. Calhoun, in the correspondence subnitted with the treaty, avowed this to be the primary object war because its object is to extend, not the "area of free-dom," but the area of bondage. And I wish to commend this subject specially to the gentleman from Illinois, whose bosom glows with such ardent patriotism that he is willing to spill rivers of blood in this war with Mexico. That gentleman was born in a State where the blight of slavery was never known, and his residence is now in a free State. All his associations. we may suppose, have been in favor of freedom, and yet he is willing to aid in riveting fetters upon others, now as free as himself. Yes, Mr. Chanman, though he professes an ardent political aspirations to gratify, and hence shall not be very solicitous of courting Executive favor, or flattering the morbid warmed by the very fires of patriotism, he is desirous of spreadarmed by the very fires of po it is now unknown. He is so devoted to his country, and so in love with her institutions, that he is willing to sustain, with blood and treasure, an institution at war with the first princi-ples of a Republican Government—liberty and equality. He enounces Mexico as an uncivilized and babarous Power, and still he aspires to be a leader in a policy designed to extend and perpetuate slavery, and to plant on the soil of Mexico an institution which she, barbarous as she is, and corrupt as the gentleman would represent her to be, would not permit to pollute her soil. This is the position of the gentleman who de-nounces all as traitors who will not bow to the dictation of the majority on this floor.

He may occupy that position, but I confess that I do not covet it. I agree with the late Whig candidate for the Presidency, Mr. Clay, "that all wars are to be regarded as great tory itself would prove a defeat, and that a triumph over our enemies in foreign countries, would eventuate in tion of our free institutions at home. War under any circumstance is a great calamity. But when it is waged without an adequate cause—when it is carried on to gratify an inordinate ambition, or an unboly spirit of conquest, it is more than a calamity—it is a crime of the deepest dye. And the Administration which shall use the power reposed in it for good, for such wicked purposes, merits and justly merits public execration. Let those in power look well to it that this execution

MURDEROUS AFFAIR AT PALMYRA, MISSOURI .-The St. Louis Republican of the 8th instant has the

"We alluded, a few days ago, to a difficulty between H. C. Broadus, of Hannibal, and John L. Taylor, of Palmyraresulting in a challenge to fight a duel, and the rejection of the terms proposed by the challenged party. That affair has led to a most dreadful result in the death of the seconds, which occurred on Saturday evening last, at Palmyra. About S o'clock, George W. Buckner, Esq. met Joseph W. GLOVER, at the spring in or near Palmyra. The meeting was accidental-Glover, armed with a six barrel revolving

passing directly through the latter's heart. He expired im-

"The parties to this dreadful conflict are respectable men and we understand that there had been, prior to the above duel, no difficulty whatever between them. Mr. Buckner was the circuit attorney for the district, residing at Bowling

Green, and Mr. Glover a student of law in Palmyra. The Hon. TRISTAM BURGES, formerly of Rhode Island, but now residing within the State of Massachusetts, a short distance from Providence, has within a few years past been living in such strict retirement from all public affairs that he had really become almost forgotten to the community. He emerged temporarily from that retirement a few days since, however, and re-appeared among his old friends and acquaint-ances at Providence, apparently in all the mental and physical vigor of his palmiest days, and on Friday last made a most able and eloquent speech before a committee in support of the payment of the State debt. In argument, diction, and

persuasive eloquence, says the Providence Journal, it was equal to his best efforts in his best days.

Few men in the country have been better known as a profound and acute lawyer, sound politician, and eloquent and energetic legislative debater than Mr. Burges. In fearless the state of the process of the